

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /147 W

----- 115927

R 010940Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8335

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 9863

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CH

SUBJ: NATIONAL DAY AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REF: HONG KONG 9848

SUMMARY: PRC COMMENT ON AND IMMEDIATELY BEFORE NATIONAL DAY
REITERATED WARNINGS ABOUT SOVIET LONG-TERM INTENTIONS BUT WERE
NOT ALARMIST. END SUMMARY

1. AS NOTED IN REFTEL, THE JOINT NATIONAL DAY EDITORIAL OCT 1
MADE ONLY PASSING REFERENCE TO SOME OF THE FOREIGN POLICY THEMES
WHICH CHOU EN-LAI HAD ENUNCIATED EARLIER IN HIS PARTY CONGRESS RE-
PORT. CHOU'S WARNING ABOUT "SURPRISE ATTACKS" FROM THE "SOCIAL
IMPERIALISM"(THE USSR) FOR EXAMPLE, WAS REPEATED BY THE
EDITORIAL. HOWEVER, TREATMENT OF THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF MAO'S
STATEMENT ON BUILDING UP THE MILITIA (INCLUDING A PEOPLE'S DAILY
EDITORIAL OF SEPT 29) DID NOT STRIKE AN ALARMIST TONE ABOUT THE
NEAR-TERM PROSPECTS FOR WAR. WE HAVE SEEN ONLY ONE RECENT BROAD-
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CAST WHICH SPOKE WITH ADDITIONAL VIVIDNESS ABOUT THE NEED TO PREPARE

FOR WAR AGAINST "SOCIAL-IMPERIALISM." THIS WAS A PEKING DOMESTIC BROADCAST OF SEPT 26 WHICH SAID THAT THE PEOPLE OF SINKIANG WERE DETERMINED TO BUILD A "WALL OF IRON AND STEEL" ALONG THE NORTHWEST FRONTIER.

BUT EVEN HERE THE MAIN TALK "ABOVE ALL ELSE" WAS SAID TO BE CRITICISM OF LIN PIAO.

2. A PEOPLE'S DAILY ARTICLE OF SEPT 28 ON SOVIET "HEGEMONIC MARI-

TIME POWER" SUGGESTED THE LONG-TERM FOCUS OF CHINA'S CONCERN ABOUT SOVIET INTENTIONS. PEOPLE'S DAILY CHARGED THE SOVIETS WITH BUILDING A "COLOSSAL FLEET" WHICH HAS EXPANDED INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN AND INDIAN OCEANS, THE PERISAN GULF AND THE JAPAN AND CARRIBEAN SEAS AS WELL AS THE ATLANTIC AND PACIFIC OCEANS. "WHO ELSE CAN ACT SO OVERBEARINGLY?" THE ARTICLE ASKED "EXCEPT THE HEGEMONIC MARITIME POWER."

3. MEANWHILE NCNA'S ACCOUNT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION

NOTED IN THE FINAL PARAGRAPH THE PRESENCE OF AMBASSADOR BRUCE. NCNA DID NOT MENTION THE PRESENCE OF ANY OTHER WESTERN DIPLOMAT AND IT LISTED AMBASSADOR BRUCE AHEAD OF THE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVE (V G KANOVSKY DEPUTY HEAD OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION ON THE BORDER NEGOTIATIONS) WHO AS USUAL BROUGHT UP THE REAR. OSBORN

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